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Students safe from bombing

3 studying abroad were 243 miles away

By CHRISSY BERLIN
Assistant News Editor

Recent terrorist attacks in Spain have impacted Wartburg students more than some think. Currently, three students are studying in Spain only 243 miles south of where the bombings took place. The Atocha train station in Madrid, Spain, was bombed March 11. The train bombings killed 202 people and wounded more than 1,800, making it Spain's deadliest terrorist attack.

One of the students, junior Katie Morgart, was shaken by the attacks.

"It really scared me at first because all I could think was 9-11, all over again," Morgart said. "And the fact that I had just sent my sister and her boyfriend to Madrid, by train, to the very same station (Atocha) in which a bomb had exploded, and only a day before the incident, really scared me."

Morgart said she might not have been interested to find out why it all happened if she was not living there. "Being here during it has really opened my eyes to a lot of things that are happening globally, things which normally I would not have taken an interest," Morgart said.

Co-director of Global and Multicultural Studies (GMCS), Dr. Janice Yee, said that Morgart and the other students abroad in Spain, juniors Katie Delp and Deanna Hartman, were not in danger during the bombing.

"When we heard of the bombing we immediately checked with our local contact in Seville, Spain, where our students are currently studying. This is south of Madrid where the bombings took place," Yee said. "We also e-mailed students and contacted their families to let them know we were aware of the situation."

Although there has been a public release from the State Department updating U.S. citizens in Spain on the situation, a travel warning has not been issued.

"The fact that I had just sent my sister and her boyfriend to Madrid, by train, to the very same station in which a bomb had exploded, and only a day before the incident, really scared me."

—Katie Morgart, junior

Dr. Thomas Boerigter, assistant professor of Spanish, said this is not the first time the Spanish program has operated through a terrorist period. As a result, students traveling to Spain next year have not changed their plans because of this event, Boerigter said.

Morgart also described the Spanish media coverage the day of and the day following the event.

"The media is not censored here. They are not hesitant to show anything, so the front page the next day had someone's head on the ground, limbs detached and bomberos [firefighters] scraping bodies off of the ground," Morgart said.

The U.S. Department of State released a public announcement on March 12 to update citizens on the situation in Madrid. According to the Web site, "Americans living in Spain, and those contemplating travel to Spain, should review the Consular Information Sheet for Spain and Andorra and review the Worldwide Caution of January 9, 2004, at http://travel.state.gov or at the U.S. Embassy Web site on http://www.embusa.es and monitor news broadcasts."

Assistant News Editor Chrissy Berlin can be reached at Christine.Berlin@wartburg.edu

Crystal Tews/TRUMPET

ELEGANT DANCING— Freshmen Liz Andrews and Jon Runaas dance the night away Friday at Knight Elegance. The event took place in Knights Ballroom in the Student Center, different from last year's location in Players Theatre. A rented floor was laid down for dancing, and live music included performances by BBI.

Grossmann applicants increase

By NATHAN COUNTRYMAN
Staff Writer

Housing sign up for next year starts tonight at 7 p.m. in Knights Gymnasium and will continue through Thursday.

According to Pete Armstrong, director of residential life, students should bring their completed housing application and receipt from the controller's office, indicating their housing deposit has been paid. In signing up for a room, students will use their lottery number or the average of roommates' numbers to sign up for housing.

Approximately 350 students have already been assigned housing in the Residence, Grossmann Hall and Knights Village, reducing the number of students still left to house.

Grossmann Hall saw a record number of applicants this year. 78 groups of students applied for 63 rooms in Grossmann and the Grossmann Hall addition.

"I know anxiety gets high around this time, especially with class registration and housing sign up, but everybody will be housed," Armstrong said. "The spot they're given might not have been their first choice, but they will be housed."

Armstrong said students should have a back-up residence hall planned, in case the hall they want to reside in next year is full. Students can also put their names on waiting lists for residence halls they're interested in living in. If a spot opens up, waitlisted individuals will be notified.

"From late spring to early summer, some people's plans do change, and openings do occur," Armstrong said. "We then notify those on the waiting list that a spot has opened and let them know they can be placed in that room instead."

Staff Writer Nathan Countryman can be reached at Nathaniel.Countryman@wartburg.edu

Housing sign up times

- **Tonight, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Knights Gymnasium**
  Numbers averaging between one and 999 filling room to occupancy. All single room applicants
- **Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Knights Gymnasium**
  Numbers averaging between 1,000 and 1,499 - to occupancy
- **Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Knights Gymnasium**
  Numbers averaging between 1,500 and 1,999 - to occupancy
- **Thursday, noon to 3 p.m., Luther Hall Room 206**
  Numbers one through 1,999 - below designed occupancy

Identity theft in campus mail

By TINA HINZ
News Editor

A Wartburg student reported a credit card-related identity theft Feb. 23, the second known case at Wartburg. The other occurred in November 2002.

Senior Julia Baker was looking at her online bank account documents one afternoon when she discovered two charges she didn't recall making.

"I don't use my debit card often, and the monthly charges made were for a credit card," Baker said.

The charges on her account totaled about $400.

She then called the toll free number listed for more information regarding the charges. Baker gave her name, which was not in the system. She also told officials her account information, which was in the system.

Because of security purposes, however, the credit card company refused to release any additional information.

First National Bank of Waverly was contacted, and three hours later the problem was discovered.

A credit card offer intended for Baker was apparently delivered to the wrong campus box number. The student who received the mail used Baker's account number but different contact information for statements to be sent.

"I asked people in the mailroom, 'Will you break the law and see if a credit card statement is in her box?'" Baker said. "They didn't find a statement, but they did find more of my mail."

Campus security questioned the alleged suspect, who denied all accusations of identity theft.

"We had some names the bank was able to access by the way the charges were made," Myers said.

A report has been filed with the Waverly police department.

"I definitely learned my lesson," Baker said. "I was disappointed in the fact that this happened at Wartburg."

Myers highly encouraged all students to closely check their bank and credit card statements on a frequent basis. If any discrepancies appear, contact the bank immediately.

"The longer someone has access to your account, the more money you can lose," Myers said.

Waverly police officials continue to investigate the situation.

News Editor Tina Hinz can be reached at Tina.Hinz@wartburg.edu

CONTACT
Office: 352-8676
Advertising: 352-8618
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WEATHER
High 41 / Low 32
No chance of precipitation

Make change by being part of it

By BEN PARKS
Columnist

It's that time of year, the weather is getting nicer and classes are getting harder.

It's also that time of year when the Board of Regents releases costs for next year and housing assignments cause campus-wide headaches.

I have seen that time of the year for three years now. It builds around the time of the Student Senate executive elections and siphons off through the rest of the term.

What exactly does it include? While not easy to pinpoint, it seems to be a desire among students for change in areas of campus life. In many cases, it is a yearning for student voices to be heard on a whole range of topics from student life to academia.

Is it a bit cranky? Perhaps. Is it nitpicky? Often it is, but every institution needs some fine-tuning. After all, if positive change is to occur, it often must be initiated by those most affected by it. And really, I think that is at least one thing all of us—students, administration, faculty and staff—share: a desire for positive change.

The challenge before the student body is to enact positive change by harnessing the energy of this time of year. How?

Get involved. I know it is a shameless plug, but applications to run for May Term Student Senate are now available and are due Friday. Senate is the voice of the student body, and we need dedicated, hard-working people. Also, if you've ever complained about food or related issues, come to a Student Center Council (SCC) meeting. SCC meets every Wednesday at 5:45 in the St. Elizabeth's Ballroom. There are dozens of other campus organizations that are always looking for new members year-round.

Communicate. This is certainly a two-way street. There is no doubt that leaders, both student government and college administration alike, need to continue to work on the age-old dilemma of engaging the student body. However, the challenge for students is to become engaged and to let their voices be heard. Communication is absolutely essential for change.

Be positive. Often, it is easy to join the negativity. It is important that we acknowledge the positive things going on at Wartburg, in and outside of the classroom. And don't forget the little things, like Wartburg donuts on Fridays.

So, again, it's that time of year. The challenge for each of us: what are you going to do about it?

Columnist Ben Parks can be reached at Benjamin.Parks@wartburg.edu

Barrier not the answer

By JUSTIN KADER
Columnist

This crime against humanity happened to Jews, homosexuals, communists, the mentally challenged and the mentally ill in Germany before and during World War II. It happened to Japanese-Americans and German-Americans in the United States during World War II. And, it is still happening to Palestinians in their homeland today. The Israeli government has systematically herded Palestinians into the worst pieces of land, yet the United States continues to supply Israel with military weapons and millions of dollars every year.

Now, families have been torn apart as the construction project reaches completion. A massive concrete barrier, stretching 440 miles and reaching up to 24 feet, separates Palestinian towns from Israeli settlements that impede upon Palestinian territory.

According to John Dugard, the UN's special rapporteur for the occupied territories, the barrier violates international humanitarian law, including Article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention. This states that "no protected person may be punished for an offense s/he has not personally committed....Reprisals against protected persons and their property are prohibited" (United Nations' Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights). Israel claims the barrier is necessary for defense against suicide bombers, who represent a minute fraction of the Palestinian population.

While the Israeli government defends its safety reasons, the facts indicate it was constructed with ulterior motives. There are established boundaries between the Palestinian territories and Israeli settlements. The construction project extends well into the Palestinian territories, offering more land for Israelis to take.

The United States has been and will continue to be a key mediator in this conflict. One of the blessings of the United States is that it is a representative democracy and, in theory, citizens can contribute to policy-making.

Wartburg's Amnesty International group is conducting a letter-signing campaign that began last Monday. There are four letter formats addressed to Representative Nussle, Senator Harkin, Senator Grassley and President Bush, respectively. More than 100 students have participated in this campaign, and I urge even more to follow their lead.

This is not a matter of Palestinian versus Israeli interests. There is no political agenda. Atrocities against human beings are conducted on a daily basis, and it is our obligation as members of this species to do something about it.

Columnist Justin Kader can be reached at Justin.Kader@wartburg.edu

Editorial
Police log will continue

The March 15 edition of the Trumpet included a newly-implemented police and security log. Because of positive and negative feedback the Trumpet staff felt it was necessary to explain.

First off, the box is not a surprise decision. The staff has been researching this idea throughout the year at national and regional conferences and deemed it something our readers would find informational and helpful. Unfortunately with a small staff, the Trumpet did not have time in the past to gather this information.

The information in the log is in two parts: campus security and the Waverly police log. The security log does not seem to be questionable because all information from Wartburg is private. However, the Waverly police log excerpt includes names and ages.

One might ask the need for the names. From a paper's view, the first goal is to inform the public with credible sourcing. Without the printing of the names, the information becomes useless to readers—simple gossip really—and libelous material according to court precedent.

Readers should know that all Wartburg community members will be included in the police log as a point of information, not just students. Simple traffic offenses will not be included.

Scenarios where this information could be helpful to the Wartburg include an unknown student with four OUIs in need of alcohol counseling. Or, this week's log including a student victim of identity theft that occurred on campus.

The Trumpet staff has been led by a mission statement of "providing clear, accurate, concise information to answer the questions of our community and always striving to get the truth in a fair and balanced manner." We hope our readers feel the same way about their news coverage. If not, we'll simply resort to running press releases and features. This is the campus voice, not the Trumpet staff's, and to help we've provided several access points for reaching Trumpet staff members. Use these to voice your opinion or provide feedback and it will be heard.

Letter to the editor

To the Editor:

First, I would like to compliment and congratulate Delford Doherty for his column on accepting GLBT issues on the Wartburg campus and in the world as a whole. Why do I care about this issue? Simple. Because Alliance was reborn during my time at Wartburg. The issue of GLBT students was a hot button. Several social work students in Lynn Peters' Community Theory & Practice class decided to take on the revitalization of GABLES and work to implement a Safe Zone/Safe Space project at Wartburg. We had the same reactions as it seems the current Alliance members are facing: stares (especially for those of us who were "straight" members) and a lack of attendance at events and forums. I challenge the Wartburg community to ask about and explore the issues relating to GBLT and Alliance instead of ignoring them. You will find that your Wartburg experience and your life become much richer by asking the hard questions, even if you don't agree with all viewpoints.

Sincerely,
Jessica Braithwaite '01

To the Editor:

After reading Jeremy Reichel's column in last week's Trumpet, I find myself respectfully disagreeing with him. While Reichel does seem to understand the premise behind the movie, I believe he missed a major component. People of faith brought with them an understanding of the events portrayed in the movie – that Christ suffered "for us and for our salvation." It is also important to emphasize a point that Reichel observed–the account is true to our understanding of what happened to Jesus.

This is a pivotal point. While a non-believer might not bring with him or her the idea that Christ underwent this suffering for us, believers carry this with them into the movie. The suffering was so gruesome and horrific to drive this point home. The graphic violence also shows us the nature of torture in the ancient world.

The graphic nature of the movie is and was necessary, as we appear to be so far removed from suffering that we need it depicted in a movie. While I am not degrading people who did need to leave, I think it speaks volumes about our society – why are we so far removed from the suffering that many undergo daily?

Sincerely,
Christopher Laughlin '06

To the Editor:

What are you thinking, Jack R. Ohle?

The never-ending increases in tuition and the climbing "student fees" do not sit well with us, especially considering the enormous expenditures made on unnecessary things during our time here. Please explain to us why we need place settings lined with real gold for the Castle Room, enormous Be Orange banners on an out-of-date dorm, and crystal beer and wine glasses that aren't used. Please explain to us why the Board of Regents needs to go to Florida or Germany to discuss the future of this college. We seem to remember, at our Regents' Scholarship Day, a certain president promising to do his best "to keep this institution affordable for the students and their families." Your best isn't very good, Mr. President.

If our president was truly committed to keeping this institution affordable for students, he would stop approving the spending of tuition money on frivolities or, if this is not possible, explain to us where the money is going and why. We love this college and enjoy our time spent here despite college officials that do not seem to value student input when it comes to making major decisions about our lives and futures. We will be very sad to leave here and graduate next year; however, it is assured that we will always remember Wartburg through the enormous bills that will follow us for the next 20 years.

Amanda Berner '05
Shannon McDonnell '05

To the Editor:

Nice job putting the names of the people who got in trouble in Waverly. Not only is it in the Waverly newspaper so that they are humiliated by the community, but now their professors, alumni and friends can see that they have done wrong. I'm sure the peoples' names that were in the blotter were very pleased. Next time try and cover blank space with a cartoon and not a police blotter.

Michael Spongberg '05

WARTBURG TRUMPET

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DISCLAIMER
Views expressed on this and the opposing page are those of the editorial board and not necessarily those of the administration, faculty or staff of Wartburg College.

TRUMPET OBJECTIVES
The Trumpet was founded in 1906 as the Wartburg Quarterly. It is committed to accurate, fair and comprehensive coverage of campus events and issues that affect the Wartburg community.

TRUMPET LETTER POLICY
Letters to the editor are subject to editing without changing the meaning of the letter. Authors will not be notified of changes prior to publishing. Letters must be signed, fewer than 250 words, submitted by 5 p.m. Thursday and related to current issues involving the Wartburg community. Letters may be sent to the communication arts office or e-mailed to trumpet@wartburg.edu. Please type "Letter to the Editor" as the subject line. All publication is at the discretion of the Editor.

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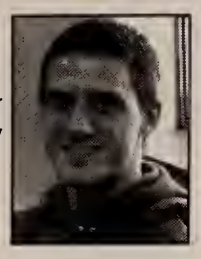
CONTACTS
Trumpet office 352-8676

Juniors, seniors react to online registration

ABOUT FACE

What do you think of online registration?

Katie Jo Kuhens, freshman
"It should be less of a hassle, easier and less paperwork than before."



Mitchell Sprague, junior
"I couldn't get it to work, so I think it sucks."

Megan Gano, sophomore
"I think it's a better idea because I don't like waiting in line."

Chris Carlson, freshman
"I think it will be more convenient but could be difficult if you don't know what you're doing."

Samantha Collins, junior
"I think a lot of people took it too seriously and got angry at nothing. Once you understood how to use the program, it was rather easy to use."

By ALLISON SCHMIDT
Staff Writer

Class registration for the 2004-2005 academic year began last week as current juniors registered March 15 and March 16. This year online registration is available to all students for the first time.

According to registrar Sheree Covert, the online registration system was first tested a year ago with about 50 students. After a successful "test run" last year, the system is now available to all students this spring. The new system virtually eliminates the need for students to wait in lines to register, although some exceptions must be taken care of on site.

Many juniors who registered online last week had positive reactions to the new system.

"I really liked it," said junior Renae Vomacka, an accounting and business administration major. "I thought it was better because I didn't have to wait in line or sign up during a scheduled time."

Junior communication arts major Blake Flores also liked the new way to register.

"It was almost too easy," he said. "I was brought up in the days of the registrar lines. That was a cutthroat situation that nobody should have to experience."

Most colleges have already shifted to online registration. According to Covert, some colleges have stricter policies when it comes to the time frame students are given to register. Wartburg students have two days to register based on their classification.

"We are a little more lenient in giving our students more time to do it on their own," Covert said.

Junior Ashley Miller, a communication design and public relations major, was already familiar with online registration, having used it at Iowa State University her freshman year.

"I am glad Wartburg is moving into the future with registration," Miller said. "Online [registration] has been a thing of the past for many colleges and universities, so it is nice to know that Wartburg is keeping up with the times."

Miller offered some advice for students who will soon be registering online.

"Make sure you have all your ducks in a row," she said. "It is easier when you know exactly what needs to be taken care of and what extra paperwork is required."

Despite being familiar with online registration, Miller still had to register on site at the registrar's office to fulfill some needs that online registration can't meet.

At this point internships, overloads and foreign language classes require students to register on site. At some point in the future, Covert hopes that students will be able to register for foreign languages online, but she said that internships probably always will require on-site registration because they require an entirely different set of paperwork.

Covert reminded students that anyone who registers during their classification dates has an equal chance for enrollment into their courses regardless of what time or which day they register.

"Basically we take the whole pool of all the students, those who are enrolled in the class and those who are waitlisted, and place them into the class one-by-one based on seniority and need," Covert said.

At this point, the online system hasn't made Covert's job any easier.

"Introducing something new is not easy," she said. "What I think it's going to do is make the information more accessible to the students and empower them to be a little bit more proactive and be more comfortable in choosing their classes and taking more of a strong role in that."

The online registration system makes it possible for the registrar's office to post more information on the Internet to assist students in making decisions.

"I think the best part of it is all of the information that is available for the students so that they can sit down and make an informed decision about their courses," Covert said.

To assist students with the online registration process, the registrar's office has provided informational sessions, trained residence hall directors to assist students, sent out e-mails and provided registration tips in The Page. The registrar's staff will also be available from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. today and next March 29 in WBC 117 to assist students in registering online.

Staff Writer Allison Schmidt can be reached at Allison.Schmidt@wartburg.edu

Record

On campus

Fire alarms

■ March 18, northeast corner of Centennial Hall, building evacuated but no fire.

Security

■ March 13, Cornils House, glass lobby window shattered. Witnesses saw a white male in dark clothing run from the scene. No known injuries were reported. Case is labeled as vandalism. Investigation by campus security continues.

■ March 17, Trumpet bin locations, theft. Trumpet reported all copies of the March 15 issue stolen from all but three bin locations. Campus security is investigating.

■ March 18, Clinton Hall, underage alcohol consumption. Female passed out but regained consciousness just before an ambulance arrived. She was transported to Waverly Municipal Hospital for observation. Investigation continues by Waverly police.

Waverly police log

■ Feb. 23, approximately 4:31 p.m., identity theft. Julia Baker reported to Bremer-Waverly Law Enforcement Center officials that someone received a credit card in her name.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

BAETHKE NAMED FORENSICS ALL-AMERICAN

Senior Hiliary Baethke, president of the Wartburg forensics team, was one of 12 college students in the nation to be named an American Forensics Association All-American. She was selected because of excellence in academics, service to the forensics community and service to the community and school.

STINKOFF ENDS

Juniors Tammy Jo Anderson and Russ Goerend were prohibited from showering beginning March 14, until donations for the Stinkoff fundraiser amounted to at least $100. The Stinkoff ended Friday after raising $152.09, which will be donated to the Cedar Bend Humane Society.

SEXUAL ASSAULT ADVOCATE TRAINING THIS WEEKEND

Sexual assault and domestic violence advocate training will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday in Room 214 of the Whitehouse Business Center. The training is sponsored by the Sexual Misconduct and Assault Resource Team and is free of charge. To register call counseling services at Ext. 8596 by Wednesday.

OUTSTANDING FACULTY AND STAFF

Last week students voted for outstanding professor, adviser and staff person. The Rev. Larry Trachte, college pastor and assistant professor of religion, was voted Outstanding Professor of the Year. Dr. Cheryl Budlong, chair of the education department, was voted Outstanding Adviser of the Year. Don Johnson, head of maintenance in Grossmann Hall and the Residence, was voted Outstanding Staff Person of the Year.

They will be honored at the Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship Convocation at 9:30 a.m. April 6, in Neumann Auditorium.

FITNESS TRAINING WORKSHOP

Covenant Wellness Center will offer a fitness-training event for those seeking opportunities as aerobic instructors and/or personal trainers. The "Speed, Agility & Quickness" skills and drills workshop for aerobic instructors and personal trainers are 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at Covenant Wellness Center, 2101 Kimball Ave., Waterloo. Cost is $60. To register, call 272-2313.

CAR TROUBLES?

Coonradt Ford

Convenient! Across the street, just south of campus!
We service all domestic makes and models.

Kari is smart,
Kari is fun,
Kari is cool
like bubblegum.

She likes certain things
like shampoo and sleep.
Now she can drink beer,
because it is so cheap!

Happy Birthday, dear friend
from all who love you lots.
We think you are the coolest,
much cooler than
Don Knotts.

Muhamedagic promotes diversity

By SARAH GUHL
Staff Writer

In 1997, senior Armin Muhamedagic, a tall dark-haired business administration major, was among the nearly 145,000 immigrants who came to the United States from war-torn Bosnia between 1989 and 2002. He and his family relocated to Waterloo.

Senior Spotlight 2004

Muhamedagic was 16 when he left Bosnia not at all fluent in English. He thinks that his different background and having lived through a civil war makes him different from many other Wartburg students.

Muhamedagic and his parents moved here for several reasons. They were looking for a better future, some new opportunities and a new life.

"After the war, there was nothing [in Bosnia]," he said. "Bad economy. No jobs."

He and his family had better luck in the United States.

At Wartburg, he has done a variety of things to gain new experiences and memories. One valuable memory for him includes being on the soccer team, which beat Loras this year to win the conference tournament. He also works with the Global Multicultural Studies (GMCS) office and has traveled abroad.

For GMCS, Muhamedagic sets up interviews for people who want to go abroad, makes phone calls and helps prepare for events. He also talks to students who are thinking about studying abroad.

"I went abroad last year to Salzburg, Austria, for one semester," he said. "It gave me the chance to travel and go back and visit my relatives and friends [nearby]."

Muhamedagic said that it's often easier for students to relate with other students who've gone abroad more than with faculty or staff.

"I suggest that everyone study abroad to get experience," he said, "just meeting new people and experiencing diversity. Wartburg is trying to push diversity, but I don't think that it is succeeding. It doesn't feel like they [international students] are part of the community. Get them more involved."

"International students are in their own little cliques," he said. He added they aren't getting same experiences he got by going to Austria. International students should be involved more on campus and in the community, as well as with other non-international students, he suggested.

Muhamedagic isn't an international student, but since he has been in America only about seven years, he said he feels in the middle. At Wartburg he's met about five or six students who are from the former country of Yugoslavia, but most are international students because they are not living in the United States permanently.

A large population of Bosnians are living in Waterloo, so he communicates with them to keep ties to his ethnic heritage. As of 1999, Bosnians made up approximately 10 percent of the population in Waterloo.

It may not seem that wars overseas hit home, but in Muhamedagic's case, it is all part of a unique world experience that native-born Americans can't match.

Staff Writer Sarah Guhl can be reached at Sarah.Guhl@wartburg.edu

Annina Rupe/TRUMPET

THERE TO HERE—Senior Armin Muhamedagic would like to see more racial and ethnic diversity at Wartburg. He immigrated to the United States from war-torn Bosnia with his family in 1997.

Fast Facts:

Major: Business Administration with emphasis in International Business and Management
Hometown: Originally from Bosnia. Lived in Waterloo for seven years.
Favorite Class: international business classes
Favorite Memory: "Winning the conference tournament in soccer and beating Loras, our biggest rival in soccer."
Biggest Influences: "My parents, because of hard work. We came here in '97 and had to start from scratch."
Note to Peers: "Live life to the fullest. You only live once. Don't take it for granted."
Pearl of Wisdom: "Treat others the way you want to be treated."

Crystal Tews/TRUMPET

Junior Erika Quade performs a music lyric interpretation including Britney Spears and Vanilla Ice songs for the 4th Annual Forensics Showcase Saturday night.

Symphony performs Saturday

By TINA HINZ
News Editor

The Wartburg Community Symphony will perform its "Undercover Artists" concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in Neumann Auditorium.

Paul Jacobs

Music includes Saint-Saëns "Symphony No. 3 in C minor, Op. 78" ("The Organ Symphony") and will feature nationally acclaimed Paul Jacobs as organ soloist. Jacobs will also perform a solo work of his choosing.

According to Dr. Janice Wade, Wartburg Community Symphony conductor, this type of soloist is unusual.

"We hadn't had an organ soloist for a long time," she said. "I try to look for things that are different."

Other featured works for the concert include Ludwig van Beethoven's "Symphony No. 5 in C Minor, Op. 67" as well as Mozart's Overture to "The Magic Flute."

Tickets for the performance can be purchased at the door before the concert and are $10 for adults and $5 for students. Admission is free for Wartburg students.

Because Jacobs will be in the balcony, use of remote TV is necessary to have him on screen, so he can see Wade's beat.

"The conducting distance is too big to make it fit together as it should with so much space between the organ and the stage," Wade said. "He [Jacobs] needs to know when to enter, so the sound of the organ and orchestra can be together."

Wade noted that plans are in the works to get a large screen on the stage level, so audience members not in the balcony can watch Jacobs playing on screen.

The concert's title "Undercover Artists" reflects how little-known facts and trivia about the featured works and composers are included in the performance.

One example involves the beginning notes of Beethoven's Fifth, the familiar three short notes and one long. Three short beats and one long symbolizes the letter v in Morse Code and was used during World War II to represent victory. The British Broadcasting Corp. played the radio signal in between programs, so people with homemade radios could set up their radios for the best reception.

The Chicago Tribune described Jacobs, 27, as "one of the most supremely gifted young organists of his generation."

Jacobs is managed by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists. Truckenbrod is a Wartburg graduate who, according to Wade, runs one of the top music agencies in the country.

News Editor Tina Hinz can be reached at Tina.Hinz@wartburg.edu

Senate Focus

By KATIE BOWERS
Staff Writer

Applications for May Term Student Senate representative positions are available today in the Senate office and will be due Friday. Elections are March 30.

"We will try to use e-Vote if a trial run before election day proves to be working," said senior Jeremy Reichel, Senate vice president.

Elected senators will begin serving during May Term and continue into the 2004-2005 school year.

"May Term Senate usually only meets once or twice and deals with any business that might come up or ties up loose ends on the year," Reichel said.

All students are eligible to vote for representatives. Students run based on their housing for next year. One person is selected from each residence hall, with the Complex receiving one extra representative.

Staff Writer Katie Bowers can be reached at Katie.Bowers@wartburg.edu

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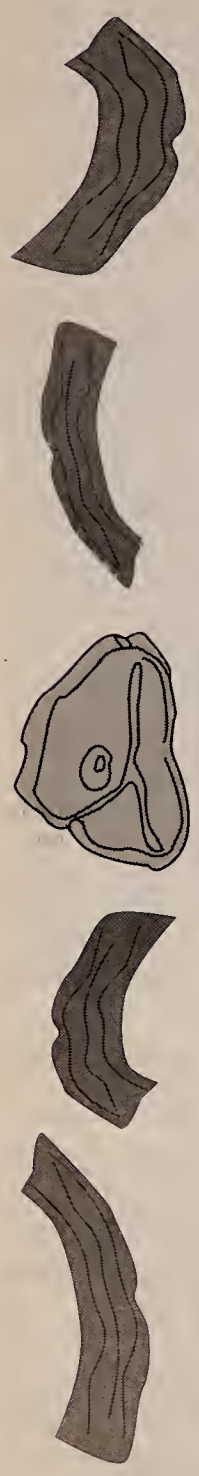
Wartburg response on Madrid attacks
Housing sign up coverage · Alcohol policy changed

Dr. Atkins' diet plan

Three share their experience with the diet



By BETHANY DUNCAN
Staff Writer

Cereal, bread, oranges, apples, pasta, milk, juice, ice cream, pudding, cake.

Hungry? These are just a few foods from a long list that people on the Atkins diet can't have.

Why give up so many foods? To lose weight.

The purpose of the Atkins diet, as stated on the Web page, is to "control your weight, re-energize yourself and build the foundation for a healthier life." This happens when people don't eat carbohydrates or sugars, forcing their body to use stored fat for energy. When fats and sugars are removed, meats and other protein-rich foods fill one's plate.

Sophomore Rachel Eagle started on the diet with a goal of dropping two pants sizes. When she quit the diet seven months later, Eagle had gained weight—not lost it.

Sophomore Jack Kampf wanted to lose 25 pounds on the Atkins diet. He lost 12 pounds and gained eight after quitting the diet two months later.

Senior Brian Burrier plans to stay on the Atkins diet for life. Burrier has been on the diet for over 14 months.

"I don't even consider it a diet anymore," he said, "it's more of a lifestyle that I've...become accustomed to." After losing 25 pounds, Burrier set a new goal of becoming more physically fit by exercising.

All three Atkins dieters eat about two meals a day in the caf. Although none complained about the food, selection and variety are slim when on this diet.

Not eating carbohydrates limits Eagle, Kampf and Burrier to the grill, the deli and the salad bar—depending on the day. Kampf also enjoyed the meat and cheese from the taco bar.

Checking food labels is important while on the Atkins diet. Eagle and Kampf both commented on how accommodating the caf staff was when asked to share nutrition information. This made sticking to the low carbohydrate regimen easier.

Experts at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., say the long-term effect of high-protein, low-carbohydrate diets, such as Atkins, is debatable. A statement on the Mayo Clinic Web site says, "Low-carbohydrate diets do work in the short run. But their long-term weight-loss results aren't significantly better than those of standard diets." Due to the nutrient intake of Atkins dieters, the Mayo Clinic also said, "There's concern in the medical community about the long-term effects...on a dieter's health, especially on the heart."

Despite critics, the Atkins diet continues to thrive. Restaurants and food manufacturers have noticed this low-carbohydrate trend and reacted. Subway introduced the Atkins wrap earlier this year. Burger King recently unveiled its low-carbohydrate menu. Russell Stover even debuted low-carbohydrate chocolates just in time for Valentine's Day. These changes give Atkins dieters more choices. However, choices are still limited.

While Burrier takes advantage of new low-carbohydrate products on the market, Eagle and Kampf now enjoy a variety of foods served in the caf and elsewhere.

Burrier, although he lost a significant amount of weight on the Atkins diet, feels the diet may not be for everyone.

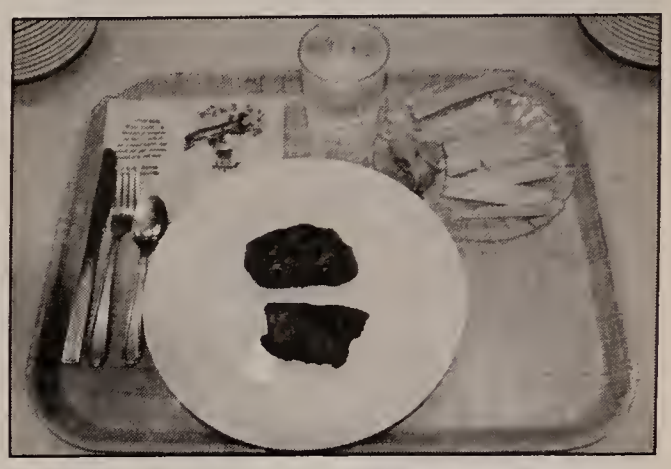
"I would recommend Atkins to anyone interested in making a lifestyle change and losing weight," he said. He added that everyone's body is different and not all will get the same results.

Kampf and Eagle are two such people. Kampf now eats everything and exercises four or five times a week. He feels more healthy and satisfied than when he was on the Atkins diet.

Low-fat foods now fill Eagle's plate. She exercises every day and saw results within weeks of starting her new low-fat diet plan. Eagle, who started on the Atkins diet hoping to lose the large amounts of weight her parents lost, agrees with Burrier that the diet is not for everyone—including herself. "I didn't really mind being on the diet," Eagle said, "it just wasn't working for me like I thought it should."

All three students are more satisfied with their bodies now than before they started on their current diets. They enjoy the lives they lead- whether on the Atkins diet or not.

So load up your plate with cereal, oranges, pasta, pudding and cake—unless you choose to make the Atkins diet part of your fitness plan.



Erica Finken/TRUMPET
ATKINS OPTIONS–A few of the choices available in the caf for those on the Atkins diet are shown above. Hardee's new Thickburger is part of the restaraunt's Aktins-friendly menu at left.

Staff Writer Bethany Duncan can be reached at Bethany.Duncan@wartburg.edu

Professor focuses his research on the Atkins diet

By ELIZABETH BALLY
Staff Writer

The Atkins diet has America in a chokehold. The diet not only affects people in bigger cities but has invaded smaller communities. From Cedar Falls to Waverly, it has been introduced to food stores and fast-food establishments.

Burger King has recently introduced a new low-carbohydrate menu consisting of the Whopper, Double Whopper and Chicken Whopper. Only there's a catch-they remove the sauce and bun.

"People were asking for these alternatives before the new menu was introduced," said Jenny Bentley, manager. "However, more people prefer the bun than those who don't."

Other fast-food restaurants offer similar solutions. Hardee's also has a low-carbohydrate burger identical to Burger King's no bun option. Subway has introduced Atkins-friendly wraps of a thin tortilla with meat or vegetable fillings.

The Atkins diet was developed in 1972 for those considered obese and/or battling diseases like heart disease. Although the diet is a fast way to lose weight, it is controversial.

The Atkins diet mutates a person's metabolism. According to the Atkins Diet information site, "With Dr. Atkins' Diet Plan, the body switches from burning carbohydrates to burning stored fat for energy." This results in rapid weight loss. However, the Atkins diet is more complicated than it seems.

"At this point it appears that the Atkins Diet both works and is a healthy nutritional lifestyle. The criticisms of it are mostly rubbish. The major problem with it is that we don't completely understand how it works,"said Professor Ed Westen, assistant professor of biology.

Westen is beginning research on the Atkins diet. He will look at the physiological consequences of carbohydrate restriction on a group of students during the upcoming summer and next Fall Term.

"The Atkins foundation does, in fact, support a lot of scientific research on the physiology of the diet. Much has been discovered; and it mostly supports the notion that carbohydrate restriction is more beneficial than fat restriction, but we still have a long way to go," said Westen.

Lack of knowledge doesn't dissuade people from trying the diet, though.

While Atkins is affecting the local area, not all establishments are changing their menus to accommodate dieters. Many restaurants offer carbohydrate-rich items. Wartburg College is another exception. Shelves in the Konditorei and Knight's Walkway Cafe remain stocked with pastries. The caf, while it offers calorie and carbohydrate tabs on foods, has retained its menu, including pastas, pizza and corn-dogs. With these options still available at Wartburg, students and staff must ignore cravings if using Atkins to lose weight.

Whether on the diet or not, Atkins is causing an impact. However, much still needs to be discovered. "Atkins himself claimed only to know from experience that it works and merely has ideas of how. He said that it's up to the researchers to work it out," said Westen.

Staff Writer Elizabeth Bally can be reached at Elizabeth.Bally@wartburg.edu

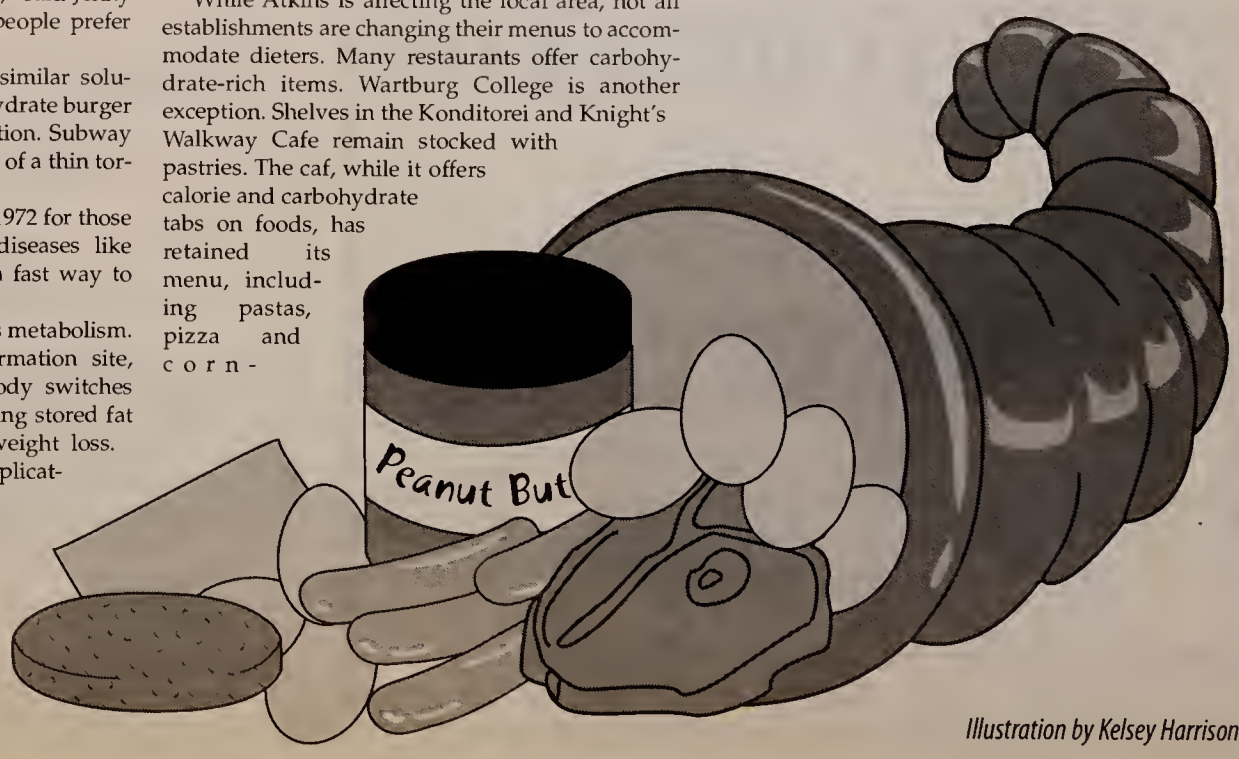


Illustration by Kelsey Harrison

Pounders walk, run for charity

By TINA HINZ AND JAYLENE AARHUS
News Editor and Staff Writer

The Wartburg College Pavement Pounders (WPP) will host its first Poundin' For a Cause 5-kilometer fun run/walk in Waverly at 3 p.m. Sunday.

"This is a way for us to serve the community," said senior Matt Townsley, WPP president. "I think the main focus is to reach beyond internal service—serving each other [at Wartburg]—to support a charity."

This event is in honor of Wartburg's Marcus and Stephanie Newsom and family, in memory of their daughter Nastasia, who passed away in early December of pre-birth complications. Marcus Newsom is assistant athletic director and head men's and women's track coach. Stephanie Newsom is director of counseling services.

At the family's request, proceeds will go to programs aimed at cleft lip and palate research, an abnormality affecting the lips and roof of the mouth causing problems with feeding and speech development.

The race will start and end in front of Wartburg's Knights Village Lounge along Fifth Avenue N.W. Course maps can be downloaded from the WPP Web site and will be distributed the day of the race.

Registration begins at 2:15 p.m. in Wartburg's Physical Education Center lobby on the corner of 11th Street N.W. and Third Avenue. Minimum suggested race registration fee is $5. The event is open to the public.

Special awards will be given to the fastest overall male and female. Other categories include best original running attire, oldest and youngest participants and best group theme. Participants can enter to win door prizes sponsored by area businesses.

Other sponsors include the Wartburg Trumpet and local businesses.

Donations will be collected the day of the race. Contributions can also be sent to the following address: Wartburg Pavement Pounders, Poundin' for a Cause Wartburg College, 100 Wartburg Blvd., Waverly, Iowa 50677. Make checks payable to Wartburg Pavement Pounders.

WPP is a student-initiated running club founded during Fall Term of the 2003 academic year. The vision is to create a series of times throughout the week for Wartburg community members of all abilities to run together.

More information is available online by visiting the WPP Web site at http://www.wartburg.edu/wpp and clicking on the Poundin' For a Cause link.

News Editor Tina Hinz can be reached at Tina.Hinz@wartburg.edu
Staff Writer Jaylene Aarhus can be reached at Jaylene.Aarhus@wartburg.edu

Culture Week Events

Today
■ 6:30 p.m.
Interfaith dialogue hosted by International Club, Catholic Knights and Students for Peace and Justice, Whitehouse Business Center's (WBC) Buckmaster room

Tuesday
■ 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
International culture display and banner signing to commit to diversity promotion

Thursday
■ 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Model United Nations to discuss free trade versus fair trade, WBC Buckmaster*
*E-mail michael.brost@wartburg.edu or stephanie.baty@wartburg.edu to represent a country

Friday
■ 9:30 p.m. to midnight
Movie night, Diers House

Sunday
■ 5 p.m.
Cultural festival and dinner, Knights Ballroom**
**Tickets can be purchased for $5 at the information desk

Acrobats finish Artist Series season

ULTIMATE BALANCING ACT—The Peking Acrobats, known for their "Tower of Chairs" act, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Neumann Auditorium.

The Wartburg College Artist Series will present a performance by the Peking Acrobats Tuesday.

The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. in Neumann Auditorium. Tickets range from $17 to $28 for adults. To order, call 319-352-8286 or 1-800-772-2085, EXT. 8286. Tickets are free for students with a Wartburg ID and available at the Student Center information desk.

The Peking Acrobats began more than 50 years ago and hail from the People's Republic of China. Many of their stunts have remained the same over the years, and the troupe members begin learning as early as age five. Disciplines of the show come from 2,000-year-old traditions of the Ch'in Dynasty. Today, the group is one of the largest touring groups of its kind.

Directed and choreographed by the Hai family, whose name is renowned in acrobatic circles, the drama and excitement are accentuated by live music from a Chinese orchestra.

The acrobats' performance includes juggling, balancing and spinning everyday props while simultaneously performing handstands, headstands, contortions and splits. The troupe's signature act is the "Tower of Chairs," in which several performers do handstands while balancing on chairs stacked on top of one another.

"Amazing! Zounds!" exclaims a critic from the New York Times. "These brightly costumed tumblers, acrobats, cyclists, jugglers and clever clowns provide 90 minutes of family fun."

Courtesy of Communicotion ond Morketing

POUNDIN' FOR A CAUSE
5-K FUN RUN/WALK

DATE: March 28
TIME: 3 p.m.
START AND FINISH: front of Knights Village Lounge, Fifth Avenue N.W., Waverly
FEE: Minimum suggested $5 entrance
REGISTRATION: 2:15 p.m. in PEC lobby

CAUSE: In honor of the Marcus and Stephanie Newsom family and in memory of their daughter Nastasia

All proceeds will go to programs aimed at cleft lip and palate research.

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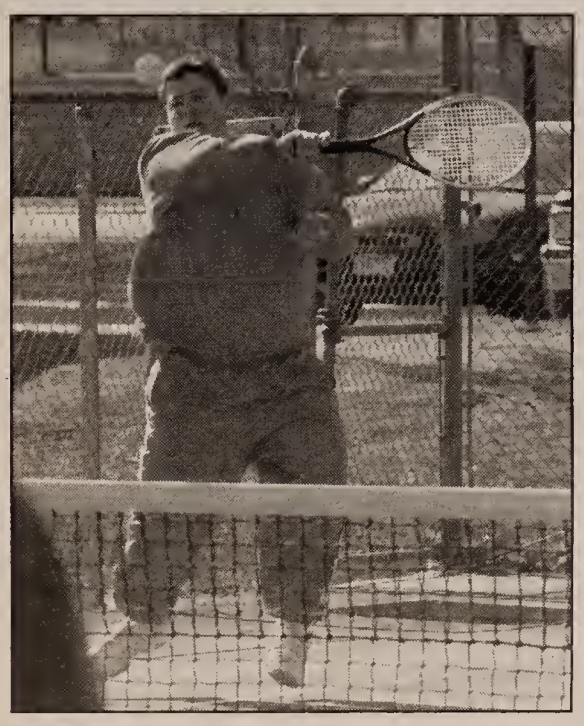
Home loss stuns tennis

By SEAN KANE
Sports Writer

Saturday, the Wartburg men's tennis team proved unable to handle Cornell College and tame the strong wind as it lost three singles matches and the doubles point en route to suffering its first home loss of the season 4-3.

In doubles, sophomore Gerhard Aseidu-Ofei teamed up with junior Blake Flores for an easy 8-0 win in the No. 2 match.



Molly Richards/TRUMPET

CLOSING IN—Junior Matt Connell fights through the wind to get to the net in Saturday's decisive singles match against Cornell.

"Gerhard was on fire," Flores said. "It was easy playing with him."

The other matches proved more challenging for the Knights, however, as junior Mark Giesmann and senior Nick Schauf surrendered an early lead and lost 8-5 at No. 1. In the No. 3 match sophomore Nick Petaros and junior Vedran Solaja trailed all the way, losing 8-3.

In singles, the Knights tied the meet score at 3, heading into the No. 6 match, behind wins from Giesmann (6-4, 6-3), Flores (6-0, 6-2) and Solaja (6-1, 6-2). In the final singles match junior Matt Connell rebounded from a 6-4 first-set loss with a 7-6 second-set tiebreak win, forcing a super-tiebreak third set. In the super-tiebreak, Connell was defeated 10-8. Other Wartburg singles losses included Aseidu-Ofei (6-4, 6-3) and Schauf (6-3, 6-3).

"I'm really disappointed. I thought we were going to mow Cornell, but you have to give them credit. They played well and we didn't collectively," Flores said. "I can't wait to play them again."

In the afternoon match, Wartburg took its frustration out on the University of Dubuque. The Knights moved indoors against the Spartans and it helped aid their play.

The doubles point was won handily as Giesmann and Schauf at No. 1 and Petaros and Solaja at No. 3 won by identical 8-0 scores. Asiedu-Ofei and Flores turned in an 8-5 win at No. 2.

Singles looked to go the same way with all but one of Wartburg's players winning in straight sets. The Knights' lone scare came in the No. 1 match. After winning his first set 6-2, Giesmann dropped the second set 0-6. Giesmann won the super-tiebreak set 10-8 to earn his eighth win in the last nine matches.

Other singles winners included Aseidu-Ofei (6-0, 6-1), Schauf (6-1, 6-0), Flores (6-0, 6-2), Solaja (6-0, 6-0) and Connell (6-1, 6-0). The win over Dubuque improved Wartburg's team record to 6-6.

Wartburg will look to stay on track against conference foe Luther and non-conference University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in Decorah Saturday starting at 9 a.m.

Sports Writer Sean Kane can be reached at Sean.Kane@wartburg.edu

Molly Richards/TRUMPET

FOLLOWING THROUGH—Sophomore Gerhard Aseidu-Ofei drives a backhand cross court in his 8-0 doubles win over Cornell.

Baseball struggles

By AARON HAGEN
Sports Writer

Last weekend was full of disappointment for the Wartburg baseball team. The Knights went 1-3 at the Rose-Hulman tournament in Terre Haute, Indiana.

"We're not scoring right now and that was a big key for the weekend," said head coach Joel Holst. "We had some decent performances from Brian Griener and Matt Scherbring."

Saturday, Wartburg defeated Marian College 5-2 and fell to Albion College 8-6. Against Marian the Knights were led to victory with two solo home runs hit by sophomore catcher Brian Greiner. Five other Knights collected hits in the game. Freshman Matt Scherbring led the Knight defense pitching all seven innings, improving his season record to 4-0.

Against Albion College, Wartburg started slow, trailing by three runs after two innings. The Knights rallied to score three runs in the seventh inning, but fell short of victory.

Seniors Casey Toops and Brian Pins, along with junior Joel Reynolds, all had a pair of hits in the game. Starting pitcher Charie Colvin surrendered two earned runs and struck out four batters in five innings of work.

Sunday, Wartburg was unable to get back on track as it dropped both games. In the first game Wartburg lost a one-run heart-breaker 3-2 to the eventual tournament champions 16-1 Rose-Hulman. Reynolds led the team with three hits, while senior Caleb Klein had two hits in the loss.

In the consolation game of the tournament, Wartburg lost its rematch against Marian 6-2. Offense remained a struggle for the Knights all tournament long.

"We continued to pitch well but didn't hit the ball well to support our pitching," Holst said.

Wartburg will host Clarke College at 1 p.m. on Wednesday before a home double header on Saturday starting at 1 p.m.

Sports Writer Aaron Hagen can be reached at Aaron. Hagen@wartburg.edu

Softball storms tourney

By NICK PETAROS
Sports Editor

The No. 8-ranked Wartburg softball team took its hot play from Florida last weekend as it went 4-0 in the Simpson Classic, which was moved to Cedar Rapids. Saturday provided plenty of drama for the Knights as both wins were earned with runs in their final at bat. A 6-4 win over the University of Wisconsin-Stout was followed by an 8-7 extra innings decision over Gustavus Adolphus.

Against UW-Stout, the Knights entered their final at-bat with the score tied at 4. Senior Heather Winter started off the inning with a single to left field. Freshman Crystal Crow pinch-ran for Winter and scored on a throwing error ensuing from sophomore Lindsey Smith's bunt. A sacrifice fly ball to center field by sophomore Deb Schindler scored the Knights final run. Sophomore Jackie Sorensen pitched a scoreless seventh inning to record the win.

Against Gustavus Adolphus, Wartburg rallied in the bottom of the seventh inning to tie the game at six sending it into extra innings. The Knights again scored a run in the bottom of the eighth to prolong the game. In the bottom of the 10th, Wartburg came through with a walk-off single for the win.

Sunday was less eventful for Wartburg as it continued to utilize strong defense and potent bats for an 8-0 win over the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and a 5-1 victory against Viterbo.

Against UW-Eau Claire, Wartburg jumped off to an early lead with three runs in the first inning. The Knights' bats got hot again in the bottom of the fifth inning as the team rallied for five runs to go up by eight before the game was called. Sophomore catcher Renae Vomacka led the Wartburg offense going three for four with three RBIs. Sorensen surrendered only one hit while recording six strikeouts in the shutout.

In the final game of the tournament, Wartburg came back from an early one-run deficit, scoring two runs in the second inning and never looking back. A double by freshman Stephanie Howe scored Schindler and Smith in the seventh to put the game out of reach. Kelly Watkins threw for five and a third innings surrendering only one earned run and recording two strikeouts in the win. Sorensen earned the save. She pitched in all four games, earning three wins and a save.

Wartburg softball will put its 16-0 record on the line next weekend in St. Louis at the Washington University Invite

Sports Editor Nick Petaros can be reached at Nicholas. Petaros@wartburg.edu

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SPORTS

March 22, 2004

Buttry competes internationally

By ANDREW DRYSDALE
Sports Writer

Missy Buttry

Junior Missy Buttry of Shenandoah finished 60th out of a field of 89 international runners at the International Association of Athletics Federation's World Cross Country Championships March 20 and 21 in Brussels, Belgium.

"It was really good," Buttry told USA Track and Field. "I didn't run that well at all, but it was great to be here to go after it. I didn't get out as fast as I wanted. I just couldn't get my legs going. It wasn't really a good race for me, but the team did really good."

Buttry's 60th place finish was fourth on Team USA. Teammate Shalane Flanagan finished 14th, while Lauren Fleshman finished 24th and Christin Wurth came in 43rd. The other American racers were Sarah Hann and Janet Trujillo who placed 64th and 77th, respectively.

Team USA took seventh place overall with 141 points. Ethiopia and Kenya took first and second place as expected in a tight battle. The Ethiopians' final score of 19 points captured the gold medal over Kenya, who finished with 21 points. Canada took the bronze medal with 87 points.

Buttry's time of 14:33 was 1:26 off the winner, Edith Masai of Kenya, who crossed the line in 13:07. The top-finishing American in the field was University of North Carolina senior Shalane Flanagan, who came in 14th with a time of 13:34.

Head track coach Marcus Newsom and head cross country coach Steve Johnson made the trip to Belgium to support Buttry.

Buttry hopes to compete again at the international level. This summer she will attempt to qualify for the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

Sports Writer Andrew Drysdale can be reached at Andrew.Drysdale@wartburg.edu

Hoops fever hits campus

Erica Finken/TRUMPET

BRACKET 101–Grossmann RHD Jesse Henkle fills out the results from Friday and Saturday's games on the first floor of Grossmann Hall.

By RICHARD PODHAJSKY
Sports Writer

Constant basketball coupled with the thrill of a mid-major school earning an upset and the play-in game that you skipped class to watch. It all adds up to one thing: the NCAA basketball tournament.

"The madness of March has caught me," sophomore basketball player Michael Schmitz said.

March is the one time of year when a person can sit and watch games with teams like Manhattan and Nevada all day long and still feel like part of the crowd.

"It's the best time of year," junior Jeff Moss said. "You know sports will be on TV all day."

The tournament isn't just about watching the games and cheering for the little guy. It's about watching the games and cheering for the little guy whom you've put some of your hard-earned cash on to win in the dorm pool.

"I have my own pool, but I'm in the pool because I love the game," sophomore Jeff Carr said.

In addition to Carr's pool there are several other tournament pools on the Wartburg campus. Grossmann Hall residents, courtesy of the hall council and RHD Jesse Henkle, submitted their bracket predictions for free to resident assistants in hopes of winning up to $30 for first place. A pizza party will also be awarded to the suite averaging the highest overall bracket point total.

The excitement of filling out brackets leads to a crucial part of the tournament experience: developing the right method to pick the games. While throwing darts and choosing the team with the best mascot are options, many Wartburg students seem to feel that the best working method is knowledge.

"I go with what I know. I look at who's playing good ball, who has the best team chemistry," freshman Alex Olsen said.

While picking the No. 1 versus No. 16-seeded game is pretty easy, the trick to winning a basketball pool is getting the correct upsets.

"I pick who I feel is a tougher team and then pick strategic upsets," sophomore Kevin Willms said. "And, of course, the mandatory No. 12 over No. 5 upset."

One unfortunate side effect of the NCAA tournament is the rash of illness that sweeps the nation, forcing hoops fans to miss work, lay on the couch and watch basketball until their sickness has passed.

"I haven't skipped class yet, but it'll happen. You'll have that," an anonymous source said. "This is an early warning to all my Monday, Wednesday, Friday professors, that I am going to be sick next week."

UNI's presence in this year's tournament has added extra intrigue among among local bracketologists, making them a popular upset pick.

"The tournament is fun but since UNI is in it that makes it all the sweeter," Olsen said.

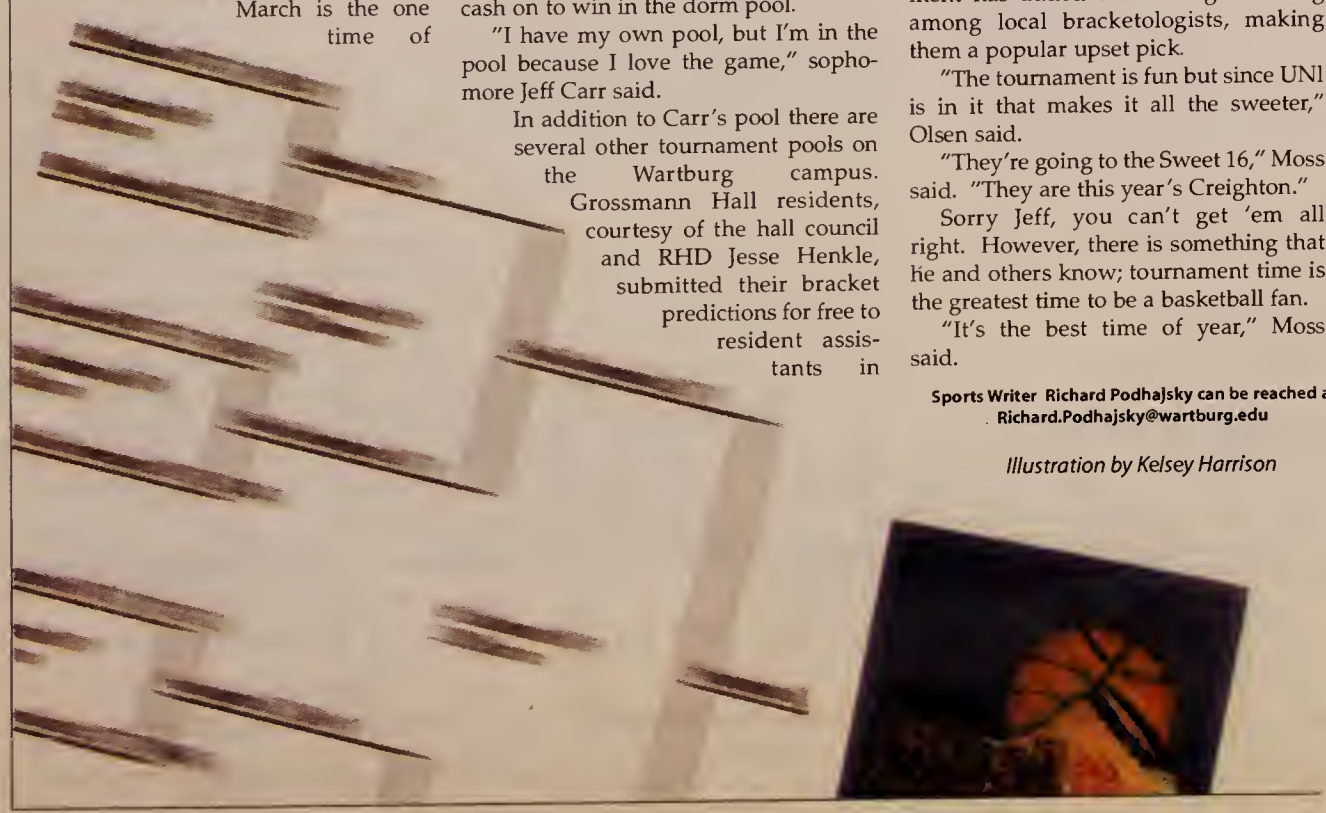
"They're going to the Sweet 16," Moss said. "They are this year's Creighton."

Sorry Jeff, you can't get 'em all right. However, there is something that he and others know; tournament time is the greatest time to be a basketball fan.

"It's the best time of year," Moss said.

Sports Writer Richard Podhajsky can be reached at Richard.Podhajsky@wartburg.edu

Illustration by Kelsey Harrison



Rich Rites

Wrestling madness

Richard Podhajsky
Sports Writer

Ah, it's that time of year again. The big upsets. The chance to root for some school that you've never previously heard of. The mainstays still coming out on top. Yes, this is the best time of year to be a wrestling fan.

Wrestling! Wrestling? Of course. While most people were out watching the NCAA basketball tournament, I celebrated March madness by keeping up with Iowa's second place finish at the NCAA wrestling tournament, which to me is the best part of this sports season.

It does make me sad to see so many people push wrestling aside after Wartburg's season is over. For me, that's just the beginning. Seeing so many Wartburg faithful at the Division III national tournament begs the question, where's the love for the rest of the state's wrestling programs?

I know there are a lot of Iowa, Iowa State and UNI supporters around campus, so why, after both Iowa and UNI made early exits in the post-season, does everyone turn their television to basketball, only to see the exciting St. Joe's/Liberty game being shown?

There have been complaints recently about Iowa's wrestling program, with the fact being they just aren't as dominant as they used to be. But is that the reason they are losing a fan base, or did they start to lose their dominance after they lost their fan following? Iowa's struggles have led to teams like UNI making more of a national name for themselves, so why haven't the ticket sales shown it?

As far as Iowa State goes, you Cyclone fans should be ashamed. Iowa State was ranked as high as No. 2 nationally this year, yet I didn't hear any mention from any of the ISU faithful about their wrestling team. Quick quiz - name three wrestlers in Iowa State's line-up (hint: one is a national champion).

So, what has happened to all the fans that made Iowa known as the wrestling state? Is second best not good enough? Has the Dan Gable effect left Iowans only hungry for a guaranteed winner, or have people just gotten tired of wrestling as a sport in general?

Whatever it is, I hope it gets fixed soon, because I don't think I can take too many more University of Illinois Chicago Flames televised basketball games.

(Quick quiz answer - Zach Roberson is the 133-pound national champion and the rest of the line-up is Grant Nakamura - 125, Nate Gallick - 141, Trent Paulson - 149, Travis Paulson - 157, Nick Passolano - 165, Grant Turner - 174, Kurt Backes - 184, Trevor Smith - 197, Scott Coleman - HWT.)

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